Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 01545 072102Z

62.

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 CAB-09 COME-00

DOTE-00 FAA-00 IO-14 ACDA-19 NIC-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01

/142 W

----- 064177

O 071927Z SEP 74 ZFF-4

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3930

AMEMBASSY BONN NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCEUR FOR POLAD AND OPS IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD OPS & AEAGG-COC IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD & OPS IMMEDIATE

USELMLO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL BERLIN 1545

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, ETRN, WB, US, UR, BU

SUBJ: BULGARIAN REFUSAL OF PAA OVERFLIGHT

REF: BERLIN 1510

1. PAA497 GUEST WORKER FLIGHT FROM BERLIN
TO ISTANBUL WITH TECHNICAL STOP AT NUREMBURG EVENING SEPTEMBER 6,
WHICH HAD RECEIVED CLEARANCE TO OVERFLY BULGARIAN THROUGH
USUAL ICAO CHANNELS AFTER BECOMING AIRBORNE, WAS REFUSED
PERMISSION TO ENTER BULGARIAN AIRSPACE. UPON HANDOVER
FROM BELGRADE ENROUTE CONTROL CENTER TO SOFIA ENROUTE CONTROL
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 01545 072102Z

CENTER, AIRCRAFT WAS INFORMED BY LATTER THAT IT DID NOT HAVE PERMISSION TO ENTER BULGARIAN AIRSPACE, TRANSMISSION ENDING:

"GOOD NIGHT, DO NOT CALL AGAIN." AIRCRAFT RETURNED TO FRANKFURT, WHERE PASSENGERS WERE PUT UP OVERNIGHT AT COMPANY EXPENSE AND SENT ON TO DESTINATION ON PAA ROUND-WORLD FLIGHT NEXT DAY. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT ONE DAN AIR AND TWO LAKER BERLIN-ISTANBUL FLIGHTS CROSSED BULGARIA WITHOUT INCIDENT SUBSEQUENT TO REFUSAL OF PAA FLIGHT. PAA HAD PREVIOUSLY FLOWN 3-4 SUCH GUEST WORKER FLIGHTS WITH NUREMBURG STOPOVER WITHOUT INCIDENT.

- 2. PAA IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS INCIDENT INASMUCH AS BERLIN-TEHRAN FREIGHT CHARTER CARRYING MACHINERY FOR IRANIAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART TEGEL AT 0930 LOCAL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 (FLIGHT HAS RECEIVED BULGARIAN CLEARANCE THROUGH SAME CHANNEL AS LAST NIGHT'S FLIGHT). PAA HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING THIS CONTRACT (WHICH PROVIDES FOR 12 SUBSEQUENT FLIGHTS) IN VIEW OF GOI PREFERENCE FOR NATIONAL CARRIER AND IS FEARFUL THAT IT WILL LOSE CONTRACT IF MONDAY'S FLIGHT IS TURNED BACK.
- 3. PRESS HAS PICKED UP STORY AND SENAT HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN TO MISSION. MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT EMBASSY SOFIA BE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE IMMEDIATE PROTEST TO GOB RE REFUSAL OF CLEARANCE FOR SEPTEMBER 6 FLIGHT.
- 4. USCOB CONCURS.SELIGMANN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Subject: BULGARIAN REFUSAL OF PAA OVERFLIGHT

TAGS: PGOV, ETRN, WB, US, UR, BU, PANAM

To: STATE SÓFIA

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005